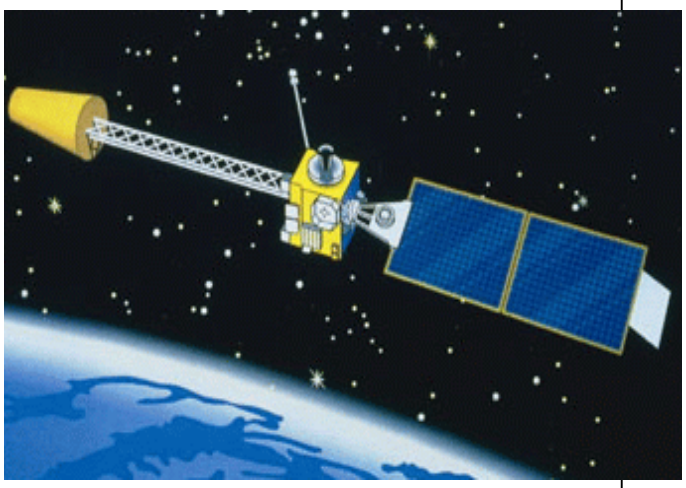
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Total Request: $593,831,000
ORF: $103,092,000
PAC: $490,739,000



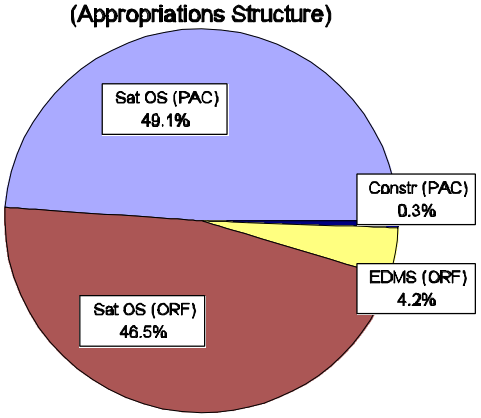
GOES (I-M) Spacecraft

The following narrative describes the total activities of the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service (NESDIS) and provides a detailed narrative divided to show the Operations, Research and Facilities (ORF) and Procurement, Acquisition and Construction (PAC) accounts.

NESDIS provides for procurement, launch and operation of the polar orbiting and geostationary environmental satellites, and management of NOAA's environmental data collections. NESDIS also acquires operational data from non-NOAA environmental satellites that include Department of Defense (DOD) and foreign satellite missions. The satellites provide meteorological data to the National Weather Service and other environmental data users. Environmental data and information are collected from NOAA and other sources, disseminated in real time, and archived for future use to meet the needs of users in commerce, industry, agriculture, science and engineering, and in Federal, state and local agencies.

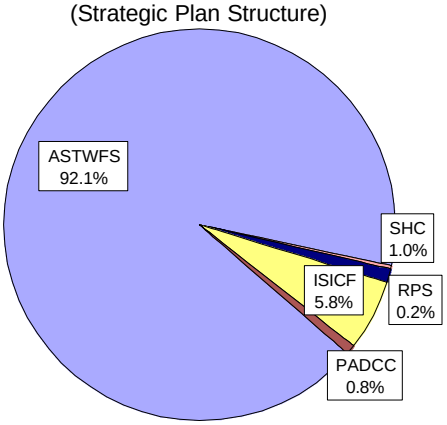
Activity Based

(Appropriations Structure)



Goal Based

(Strategic Plan Structure)



NESDIS

GOES-8

NESDIS contributes to the achievement of five of NOAA's Strategic Plan goals: Advance Short-Term Warning and Forecast Services, Implement Seasonal to Interannual Climate Forecasts, Predict and Assess Decadal to Centennial Change, Recover Protected Species and Sustain Healthy Coasts.

For FY 2000, the National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service requests a total of $593.8 million, of which $103.1 million is requested in the ORF account and $490.7 million is requested in the PAC account.

Detailed Program Increases

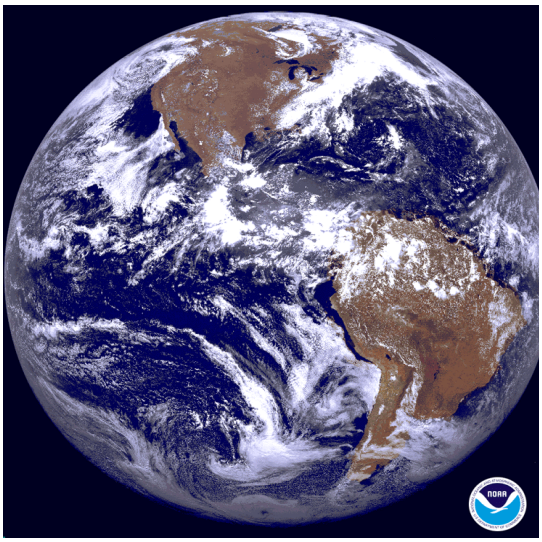
Satellite Observing Systems [funded in Operations, Research and Facilities Account] - This subactivity provides for the operation of current polar-orbiting and geostationary satellites; and production and distribution of satellite products. Also included in this subactivity is the planning for the follow-on satellite systems and the development of new and improved applications and products for a wide range of Federal agencies, state and local governments, and private users.

An increase of $2.0 million is requested to establish an integrated Global Disaster Information Network (GDIN) to improve all phases of disaster management. This will be a public/private partnership to develop an information system for those who manage and those who are affected by disasters.

$53.2 million is requested to maintain on-going satellite operations and data processing and distribution. This increase will fund Satellite Operational Control Center (SOCC) non-discretionary labor and non-labor costs increases in order to avoid serious risk to the health and safety of the current operational satellites. This increase will also maintain adequate operational data processing capacity and engineering support for Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (GOES) and Polar Operational Environmental Satellite (POES) data streams.

Satellite Observing Systems [Funded in the PAC Account] - This activity provides funding for the multi-year procurement of spacecraft, launches and associated ground system changes for the current series NOAA K-N' of polar-orbiting operational satellites, the GOES and the National Polar Orbiting Environmental Satellite System (NPOESS).

Polar Convergence - The FY 2000 request for the Polar Orbiting Systems includes an increase of $30.1 million for NOAA's share of the NPOESS program. In FY 2000, the NPOESS program will complete Phase I design and development of five key sensors and initiate Phase II production of these sensors. This program will be jointly and equally funded by NOAA and DOD.



The FY 2000 request for the Geostationary System includes an increase of $6.8 million due primarily to the GOES N-Q spacecraft acquisition portion of the program, inclusion of development funds for advanced instruments to be ready for the GOES-Q satellite, and the upgrading and replacements of aging ground systems that will remain operational through the life of GOES-Q.

Environmental Data Management Systems [funded in the ORF Account] - NOAA requests a total of $43.8 million in this subactivity for environmental data and information products; services and assessments in the atmospheric, marine, solid earth, and solar-terrestrial sciences for all of NOAA's programs. The FY 2000 request continues to provide global data and information to commerce, industry, agriculture, science and engineering, the general public and Federal, state and local governments. Also included in this subactivity is NOAA's ongoing effort to rescue aging data and improve user access to all NOAA-maintained environmental data. The FY 2000 request continues to reflect savings anticipated from the implementation of the NOAA Virtual Data System (NVDS) that has modernized existing data and storage systems and vastly increased, streamlined, and simplified customer access to environmental data. For customers and data users, NVDS permits ease of access through a single gateway to data stored at the three Data Centers located at different geographical locations.

For FY 2000, an increase of $1.5 million is requested to initiate the modernization of NOAA's Cooperative Reference Observer Network and Rain Gauge Network. This program will ensure the future health and usefulness of the cooperative observer network for years to come. It will prevent a number of imminent catastrophic failures in networking including the inability to read punched papers tapes from the raingauges, inadequate supply of replacement chips for the thermistors used in the cooperative network, and the elimination of changes in observing time which effectively destroy our ability to evaluate changes in extremes for our longest and best observing stations.

PAC [Funded in the Construction Account] - A total of $3.5 million is requested for the NOAA Operations Center Rehabilitation (NORC) at Federal Building #4, Suitland Federal Center, Maryland. Of this total, $3.0 million is requested in NESDIS and $0.5 million is requested in NWS. NOAA requires these funds for the launch and command of GOES N-Q satellites. NESDIS must have this capability in order to continue support of its GOES satellite data mission. The $3.0 million is required in FY 2000 for a minimum level of repair and renovation to existing space to accommodate the 7,000 sf

expansion needs for command and control and support activities for the GOES N-Q satellites. The renovation work includes HVAC replacement, rehabilitation of raised flooring, replacement of ceilings/lighting, rehabilitation of windows, and asbestos abatement. The GOES N-Q ground system equipment is being acquired through a fixed price contract with delivery scheduled for March 2000. NESDIS must have its facility prepared for the delivery and installation at that time, or it will incur significant delay costs under the contract.

Adjustments-to-base, program reductions and terminations are shown in Section 4: Supplementary Information.

NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL, SATELLITE, DATA AND INFORMATION SERVICES

($ IN THOUSANDS)

GOAL BASED - All Accounts	*FY 1999 ENACTED*		*FY 2000 BASE*		*FY 2000 PRES. REQUEST*		*INC./DEC. (REQUEST - BASE)*	
	FTE	*AMT.*	*FTE*	*AMT.*	*FTE*	*AMT.*	*FTE*	*AMT.*
Advance Short-Term Warning and Forecast Services	587	519,444	587	520,194	587	547,060		26,866
Implement Seasonal to Interannual Climate Forecast	266	39,958	266	40,443	266	34,625		(5,818)
Predict and Assess Decadal-to-Centennial Chnage		8,219		8,219		4,719		(3,500)
Recover Protected Species		1,202		1,202		1,202		
Sustain Healthy Coasts	9	6,171	9	6,225	9	6,225		
TOTAL NESDIS	862	574,994	862	576,283	862	593,831		17,548